

## ATTACHMENT A

**From:** Serio, John C. [JSerio@brownrudnick.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2006 2:39 PM  
**To:** Stephen Almeida  
**Subject:** RE: Novalis Patents

Stephen.

Good to hear from you. You are right, the renewal service is a solicitation for an unnecessary service. We do docket the maintenance fees and pay them on your behalf every 3.5 years. You must have received a copy of the latest patent by now. Congratulations on this latest patent. We currently have a continuation filed to keep a case active. You spoke in the past of adding new matter to the application. We should do that prior to any office action issuing on this pending continuation, however, it should be some time before that is needed. I am keeping an eye on Palomar v. Candela. I think that Palomar may have shot itself in the foot in this latest patent suit. I'll let you know of any developments in that action.

Kind Regards,

John

John C. Serio

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**From:** Stephen Almeida [mailto:salmeida@novalismedical.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2006 5:58 PM  
**To:** Serio, John C.  
**Subject:** Novalis Patents

John:

We haven't spoken in a while; I hope everything is well with you. Things are going OK here. Still keeping my nose above water.

I just received a notice to renew patent from United States Patent Renewal Service. They state I need to pay a renewal fee every 3.5 years to keep the patent active. It is a solicitation, but I need to know if this is something that Brown, Rudnick automatically pays or is this my responsibility?

Best Regards,

Stephen Almeida  
President

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